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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of

O'BRIEN

Atty Ref.

540-322

Serial No. 10/052,108

Group:

Filed: January 17, 2002

Examiner:

For: **HARDENED AUTOMATIC
SYNCHRONISATION SCHEME FOR
ATM CELLS**

May 21, 2002

Honorable Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, DC 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

Prior to initial examination, please amend the above-identified application as follows.

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel without prejudice claims 10 and 11 and amend claims 3, 8 and 9 as follows. Please substitute the following amended claims for corresponding claims previously presented. A copy of the amended claims showing current revisions is attached.

a1

3. (Amended) A method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the error correction corresponds to Reed Solomon forward error correction.

a2

8. (Amended) A method as claimed in claim 1 wherein the synchronisation data is interleaved throughout the ATM cell in such a way as to render the ATM cell substantially insensitive to interference targeted at cell boundaries.

SECURITY RECEIPT

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To: Assistant Commissioner for Patents
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By: Kristen M. McGee
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Date: May 21, 2002

Description of Attachments or Enclosures

3-page Preliminary Amendment (1 copy)
6 sheets formal drawings (1 copy)
1 GB priority document

Serial No.: 10/052,108

Atty. Docket No.: 540-322

(Corresponding to GB 0101700.3 filed January 23, 2001)

The above-identified matter was personally received by me on the 21 day of May, 2002.

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K. Peterson

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